

BILL NO. 15 2007

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE READING FIRE DIVERSITY BOARD.

- Whereas: On December 8, 2005, a Federal lawsuit was initiated (*Horne, et al. v. City of Reading*, 05-cv-6334 [E.D. Pa.]), which alleged that the City of Reading Fire Department's recruitment, application, and hiring have resulted in a serious under-representation of African-Americans and other minorities within the Fire Department.
- Whereas: The respective parties to the lawsuit have drafted a proposed consent decree.
- Whereas: Said proposed consent decree will be presented in court for approval.
- Whereas: The proposed consent decree is hereto attached as Attachment "1" and its terms are hereby incorporated by reference.

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF READING HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

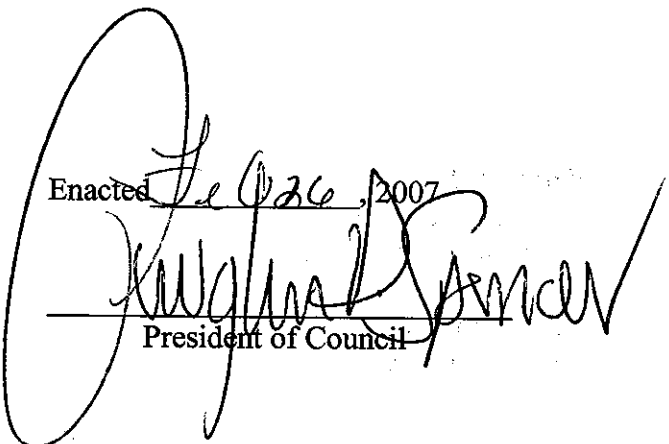
- SECTION 1.** Pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of the Consent Decree (Attachment 1), the City of Reading hereby agrees to and shall:
- a. organize/create a Fire Diversity Board ("FDB") with seven (7) mutually selected uncompensated voting members (and two nonvoting ex-officio members) and mutually select a FDB legal counsel (compensated);
 - b. fund the functions of the FDB;
 - c. provide the FDB with the meeting space and equipment required to carry out its designated functions;
 - d. authorize the FDB to obtain information, data or testimony from any agency or department of the City of Reading, which the FDB deems relevant to function;
 - e. retain and designate a qualified person as Diversity Consultant which may be in the Human Resources Department;

- f. hold harmless, indemnify and defend the FDB and its members from any actions, regardless of their nature, which may arise while the FDB or its respective members are acting in an official capacity; and
- g. adopt all of the terms contained in any Court Order and the underlying consent decree (Attachment "1") as part of this Ordinance.

SECTION 2:


This ordinance shall become effective ten days after passage by Council and approval by the Mayor or re-passage by Council over the Mayor's veto as set forth in Home Rule Charter Article II Section 219.

Enacted Feb 26, 2007


President of Council

Attest:

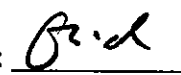

City Clerk

Submitted to Mayor: 

Date: 2-27-07

Received by the Mayor's Office: 2-27-07

Date: OK

Approved by Mayor: 

Date: 2/28/07

Vetoed by Mayor: _____

Date: _____